THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) Yes, Sir. There is continuous increase in the urban population of the country. The urban population which was 79 million in 1961 has increased to 217 million in 1991 (census figures). As per the Report of the Expert Committee on population projections, it is likely to reach 326 million by the turn of the century.

(b) The increase in urban population which is due to both natural increase and rural-urban migration is likely to further aggravate the housing, water supply, sanitation and transport facilities for the urban poor.

(c) Urban development is a state subject. To enable the State Governments to take up programmes for the urban poor, the Government of India has introduced the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Urban Basic Services for the Poor and Nehru Rozgar Yojana. Through HUDCO, this Ministry also assists the State Governments in taking up weaker section housing schemes. To address the urban problems including those of poverty in a comprehensive manner, the Government of India has initiated steps for the development of a National Urban Policy.

Industries in Non-conforming Areas in Delhi

2895. SHRI JAGMOHAN : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of industries in Delhi are running in "non-conforming areas" in violation of the Delhi Master Plan;

(b) whether some of the non-conforming uses pertain to Government/public lands;

(c) whether these misuses cause acute congestion and give rise to serious health and environmental hazards; and

(d) what action has been taken to and these misuses ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No comprehensive survey has been conducted in this regard.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) DDA takes action under Section 14 read with Section 29(2) of Delhi Development Act, 1957 against the non-conforming users.

Government/DDA Nazul in Sadar Bazar Shamali

2896. SHRI JAGMOHAN : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is valuable Government/Delhi Development Authority Nazul comprising Khasra No. 14/Khasra No. 388 in Sadar Bazar Shamali, which is being wrongly claimed by some persons;

(b) whether in respect of the litigation that has been raised in District Court and High Court, no one made appearance on behalf of the Government/DDA, despite opportunities given by the court;

(c) what action has been taken on account of default by the Government/ Delhi Development Authority; and

(d) whether land is being illlegally occupied and misused against the land-use prescribed under the Delhi Master Plan, if so, what action has been taken to levy damages and launch prosecution ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) The land in Khasra No. 14/Khasra No. 388, belongs to Government and one of the encroachers, namely, Shri H. L. Sehgal has filed a suit against DDA in the Court of Additional District Judge as well as in the High Court.

(b) The panel Lawyers are attending the cases in District Court as well as in Delhi High Court regularly except on a few occasions in the case CWP No. 3768/ 91 pending before Double Bench No. 2 in the High Court. However, when the panel Lawyer was not present, the staff of the Delhi Development Authority attended the Courts.

(c) It has been decided to change the panel Lawyers defending the Civil Writ Petition No. 3768/91.

(d) Yes, Sir. Damages have been assessed against Shri H. L. Sehgal, proprietor of Sehgal Industries Work for the period from 1-1-52 to 31-3-75. No prosecution, however, has been launched by DDA against him.

National Building Code

2897. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that National Building Code (NBC) is not being followed by builders of multistoreyed buildings in various places and towns of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether it is also a fact that encroachers and builders of these buildings have taken laws of construction industry into their own hands to suit their gains;

(c) whether the safety measures also are not being taken into consideration;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what action Government propose to adopt to arrest this trend ?